

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 IO-13 SSO-00 ISO-00
INRE-00 PC-01 AID-05 A-01 CCO-00 HA-05 OC-06
OMB-01 OPR-02 CA-01 MCT-01 SCS-06 SY-05 SIG-03
CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 /148 R

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APPROVED BY STF:WLSWING

S/S-O - RCASTRODALE

-----044236 191655Z /46

O 191611Z MAY 78 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0339

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN IMMEDIATE

CINCLANT NORFOLK IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAFE WIESBADEN

DIA WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII 0339

CINCMAS SCOTT AFB

JCS WASHDC

SAC ONFUTT NEBRASKA

REDCOM MCDILL AFB FLORIDA

COMJTF7A FORT BRAGG

USNMRSHAPE BELGIUM BRUSSELS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USICA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

USINT HAVANA

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AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY KIGALI

S E C R E T STATE 127599

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, AEMP, CG

SUBJECT: SHABA SITREP NO. 9: 0800 HOURS (EDT) MAY 19

1. THE FRENCH OPERATION TO RESCUE EXPATRIATES IN KOLWEZI WAS LAUNCHED FROM KINSHASA-NDJILI AIRPORT MAY 19 AT 0555 EDT AFTER A FOUR HOUR DELAY BY ORDER OF PARIS. NO REASON FOR THE ORDER WAS GIVEN EXCEPT POSSIBLY POLITICAL.
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THE ESTIMATED TIME OF THE FRENCH PARADROP IS NOW SET FOR 0900 ETD, MAY 19.

2. THE FRENCH OPERATION CALLS FOR APPROXIMATELY 500 TROOPS TO BE FERRIED FROM KINSHASA TO THE KOLWEZI AREA, VIA FIVE FAZ C-130S AND THREE TRANSALLS. ONCE ON THE GROUND THEIR MISSION WILL BE TO SECURE THE EUROPEAN SECTOR OF THE CITY. LATER FAZ TROOPS WILL BE USED TO CLEAR AND SECURE OUTLYING AFRICAN QUARTERS. IN SUPPORT OF THE FRENCH EFFORT, WE HAVE BEEN ASKED TO TRANSPORT 312 TONS OF EQUIPMENT TO LUBUMBASHI. THE FIRST US C-141 CARRYING A REFUELING UNIT IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE AT NDJILI AT 0614 EDT.

3. A SEPARATE BELGIAN OPERATION CALLS FOR A LANDING KOLWEZI AIRPORT AT FIRST LIGHT MAY 20 AT THE EARLIEST. THE BELGIANS WERE NOT PREPARED TO GO INTO KOLWEZI

WITH THE FRENCH. AFTER THEY PLACE THEIR 1,180 MEN AT KAMINA THIS MORNING, A CABINET MEETING WILL BE HELD TO REASSESS THE SITUATION, SPECIFICALLY THE RESULTS OF THE FRENCH PARACOMMANDO DROP. THE BELGIANS HAVE

ASKED US TO TRANSPORT FUEL TO KAMINA FOR THEIR EVACUATION EFFORT. THE FIRST OF FOUR U.S. C-141S WERE DUE TO ARRIVE AT KAMINA MAY 19 AT 0800 EDT.

4. WE HAVE CONFLICTING REPORTS ON THE DEGREE OF COORDINATION BETWEEN THE BELGIANS AND FRENCH. THE BELGIANS HAVE MADE KNOWN TO OUR EMBASSY IN BRUSSELS THAT THEY ARE NOT PLEASED WITH THE FRENCH OPERATION. THEY CONSIDER IT HASTILY CONCEIVED AND NOT WELL COORDINATED. MOREOVER THE BELGIANS DO NOT LIKE THE BILATERAL (FRANCO-ZAIRIAN) NATURE OF THE OPERATION.

5. A FRENCH MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE IN KINSHASA REPORTED THAT THE BELGIANS AT KAMINA HAD DECIDED TO
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PARTICIPATE IN THE OPERATION. HE SAID THE BELGIANS WOULD FOLLOW THE FRENCH DROP IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS TO BLOCK THE EXIST ROUTES. BUT THE BELGIANS IN KINSHASA WERE UNABLE TO CONFIRM BELGIAN PARTICIPATION.

6. THERE HAS BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE REPORTED IN THE MILITARY SITUATION ON THE GROUND DURING THE LAST 24 HOURS. ACCORDING TO REPORTS FROM FAZ, KATANGAN FORCES ARE USING EUROPEANS AS SHIELDS IN THEIR ATTACKS. UNSUBSTANTIATED RUMORS ARE CIRCULATING IN KINSHASA THAT THE COLLAPSE IN KOLWEZI WAS DUE LESS TO A KATANGAN INVASION THAN TO A FAZ MUTINY. VANCE

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY: STF:ESVENDENSEN
APPROVED BY: LDJUNION
S/S-O JE THYDEN

-----066957 202152Z /63

O 201707Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 127599

FOL TEL SENT ACTION KINSHASA LUBUMBASHI BRUSSELS PARIS
ROME LUSAKA LISBON SECDEF USCINCEUR CINCLANT
CINCUSAFE DIA CINCPAC CINCMAS JCS SAC REDCOM
COMJTF7A FORT BRAGG USNMR SHAPE USUN NEW YORK
USICA WASHC BRAZZAVILLE HAVANA RABAT LIBREVILLE
NAIROBI ACCRA MOSCOW JIDDA MONROVIA LAGOS ABIDJAN
KHARTOUM CAIRO NIAMEY YAOUNDE MAPUTO USNATO LOME DAR ES
SALAAM BANGUI BUJUMBURA KIGALI FROM SECSTATE DTD 18
MAY 1978 QTE

S E C R E T STATE 127599

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, AEMP, CG

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BILATERAL (FRANCO-ZAIRIAN) NATURE OF THE OPERATION.

5. A FRENCH MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE IN KINSHASA REPORTED THAT THE BELGIANS AT KAMINA HAD DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OPERATION. HE SAID THE BELGIANS WOULD FOLLOW THE FRENCH DROP IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS TO BLOCK THE EXIST ROUTES. BUT THE BELGIANS IN KINSHASA WERE UNABLE TO CONFIRM BELGIAN PARTICIPATION.

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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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SAS ID: 2632940
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHABA SITREP NO. 9: 0800 HOURS (EDT) MAY 19
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, AEMR, CG
To: KINSHASA LUBUMBASHI MULTIPLE
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